

2. Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1-14 (*Canceled*)

15. (*Withdrawn*) A purified nucleic acid comprising extracellular TACI and a Fc fragment.

16. (*Withdrawn*) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the Fc fragment is human IgG1.

17. (*Withdrawn*) The nucleic acid of claim 1, wherein the extracellular TACI is the nucleotide sequence encoding the amino acids 2-166 of SEQ ID NO:2.

18. (*Previously presented*) A TACI:Fc protein comprising amino acids selected from the group consisting of (a) amino acids 2-166 of SEQ ID NO:2; (b) amino acids at least 75% identical to amino acids 2-166 of SEQ ID NO:2 and (c) fragments of amino acids 2-166; wherein (a), (b) and (c) retain the biological ability to bind to TACI-L.